



## COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

### FIRE DEPARTMENT

1320 NORTH EASTERN AVENUE  
LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA 90063-3294  
(323) 881-2401

DARYL L. OSBY  
FIRE CHIEF  
FORESTER & FIRE WARDEN

November 19, 2013

The Honorable Board of Supervisors  
County of Los Angeles  
383 Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration  
500 West Temple Street  
Los Angeles, California 90012

Dear Supervisors:

## ADOPTED

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS  
COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

37 November 19, 2013

*Sachi A. Hamai*  
SACHI A. HAMAI  
EXECUTIVE OFFICER

### **REQUEST TO AUTHORIZE THE ACQUISITION OF TWO (2) LIFEGUARD RESCUE BOATS (ALL DISTRICTS) (3 VOTES)**

#### **SUBJECT**

The Consolidated Fire Protection District of Los Angeles County (District) is requesting approval to authorize the Director of the Internal Services Department, as the County's Purchasing Agent, to proceed with the acquisition of two (2) Lifeguard Rescue Boats with an estimated cost of \$933,000 each.

#### **IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT THE BOARD ACTING AS THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE CONSOLIDATED FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT OF LOS ANGELES COUNTY:**

1. Authorize the Director of the Internal Services Department, as the County's Purchasing Agent, to proceed with the acquisition of one (1) Lifeguard Rescue Boat, previously requested for purchase in 2012-13, and approved by the Board on April 16, 2013, agenda #37. Due to manufacturing and materials cost increases, equating to a new estimated cost of \$933,000, the purchase process and initial fund allocation were rolled over to FY 2013-14.

On September 4, 2013, the CEO approved the additional funds in the Supplemental Budget.

2. Authorize the Director of the Internal Services Department, as the County's Purchasing Agent, to proceed with the acquisition of a second Lifeguard Rescue Boat, at an estimated cost of \$933,000, as a Tag-on Purchase to the first boat, Subject #1.

## **PURPOSE/JUSTIFICATION OF RECOMMENDED ACTION**

This purchase exceeds the \$250,000 capital asset threshold established by your Board and requires your approval to move forward with the solicitation and acquisition process.

In 1981, the Grand Jury recommended that Los Angeles County replace two (2) rescue boats each year during the next five (5) years (total of 10). Between 1984 and now, only 8 of the 10 recommended rescue boats have been replaced, the last one being in 2002. The Lifeguard Division still has two front-line boats that have in excess of 37 years of service.

The Lifeguard Division has a very comprehensive rescue boat maintenance program, which has kept the fleet in good operational readiness. A minimum of two hours per day are dedicated to vessel maintenance year-round. In the winter, it is common for rescue boat crews to dedicate entire work shifts to vessel upkeep and repair. Through the State of California Department of Boating & Waterways Grants, we have replaced all of our rescue boat engines and have a priority consideration commitment from Boating & Waterways to continue this engine grant program. The industry standard for replacing rescue boats is twenty (20) years. Through diligent maintenance and our engine replacement program, the Lifeguard Division has been able to operate its fleet well beyond the expected life of the vessels. However, the rescue boats that are being replaced are now over 37 years old and replacement can no longer be deferred.

The Lifeguard Division currently has nine (9) operational rescue boats and one (1) reserve to cover 72 miles of coastline, mid-channel, and Catalina. Over the last 30 years, our beach and boating activity has increased, and we now have four (4), 24-hour rescue boat operations: Marina del Rey, Avalon, Isthmus, and Port of Los Angeles, which were non-existent 30 years ago. Due to our 24-hour operations, and an increase in responses at the request of the U.S. Coast Guard (i.e., Alaska Airlines 261; post 9-11 homeland security issues; MOU with Coast Guard to provide EMS and search and rescue to distressed mariners from Point Conception to Seal Beach and 50 miles out to sea), we are putting far more hours on our boats than we have during the last several decades. We are the vital link in the marine environment adjacent to the entire Los Angeles County coastline due in part to a limited number of other agencies and resources to cover 72 miles of coastline and Catalina.

## **Implementation of Strategic Plan Goals**

Approval of the recommended action is consistent with the County's Strategic Plan Goal # 1, Operational Effectiveness, by maximizing the effectiveness of the process, structure, and operations to support timely delivery of customer-oriented and efficient public service.

## **FISCAL IMPACT/FINANCING**

There is sufficient funding available in the District's Fiscal Year 2013-14 Supplemental Budget.

Net County cost will be approximately 70 percent of the total purchase, and is already identified in the 2013-14 budget.

## **FACTS AND PROVISIONS/LEGAL REQUIREMENTS**

On October 16, 2001, your Board adopted a policy whereby departments must obtain Board

approval to purchase or finance equipment with a unit cost of \$250,000 or greater prior to submitting their requisitions to the County's Purchasing Agent. Therefore, your approval of this expenditure is required.

### **CONTRACTING PROCESS**

This is a commodity purchase under the statutory authority of the County's Purchasing Agent. The purchase will be requisitioned through, and accomplished by the County's Purchasing Agent in accordance with the County's purchasing policies and procedures established by the Internal Services Department.

### **IMPACT ON CURRENT SERVICES (OR PROJECTS)**

The purchase of two (2) rescue boats will greatly enhance the Lifeguard Division's ability to protect lives, the environment, and property in a safe, efficient and cost-effective manner.

### **CONCLUSION**

Upon approval by your Honorable Board, please electronically submit a Statement of Proceedings to the following:

Consolidated Fire Protection District of Los Angeles County  
Executive Office – Emergency Operations  
Chief Deputy Michael T. Metro  
Mike.Metro@fire.lacounty.gov

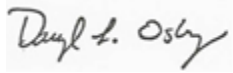
Internal Services Department  
Purchasing Division  
Gerald Plummer, Division Manager  
gplummer@isd.lacounty.gov

The Honorable Board of Supervisors

11/19/2013

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Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Daryl L. Osby", is written over a light gray rectangular background.

DARYL L. OSBY

FIRE CHIEF, FORESTER & FIRE WARDEN

DLO:vg

c: Chief Executive Officer  
Auditor-Controller  
County Counsel  
Internal Services Department